

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00577 021551Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

-----021554 114073 /43

P 021514Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5116

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0577

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ZA, RH

SUBJ: ZAMBIAN PRESS AIRS ALLEGATIONS 15 RHODESIAN

REFUGEE CHILDREN SHOT IN CAMP OUTSIDE OF LUSAKA

REF: LUSAKA 0409

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. REPORT OF ZAPU DENIALS OF ALLEGED ZANU CHARGES THAT
15 RHODESIAN STUDENTS WERE SHOT IN CAMP OUTSIDE OF LUSAKA
BY ZAPU COMMANDERS APPEARED IN MARCH 2 TIMES OF ZAMBIA.
FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS QUOTING UNIDENTIFIED ZANU EXECUTIVE
SOURCES ARE GIVEN AS THE BASIS FOR THE STORY. THESE
SOURCES HAD REPORTED THAT 15 RHODESIAN STUDENTS WERE SHOT
AT A CAMP OUTSIDE LUSAKA BY ZAPU COMMANDERS BECAUSE THEY
REFUSED TO JOIN THE ZAPU ARMY AND WANTED TO JOIN FORCES
WITH THE MUZOREWA GROUP.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00577 021551Z

2. PRO-NKOMO SOURCES REPORTEDLY DISMISSED THE REPORT OF
THE KILLINGS AS A FABRICATION DESIGNED TO SPLIT THE
PATRIOTIC FRONT. NKOMO ANC PUBLICITY SECRETARY WILLIE
MUSARARWA SAID THAT THERE WERE NO MUZOREWA SUPPORTTERS IN
THE AREA FROM WHICH THE CHILDREN CAME AND IN ANY CASE HOW
COULD THEY WANT TO JOIN NON-EXISTENT MUZOREWA FORCES. MUSARURWA

IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "THE WHOLE STORY IS A CREATION OF A DISEASED IMAGINATION."

3. DR. GORDON CHAVUNDUKA, SECRETARY OF THE MUZOREWA ANC, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE ALLEGED KILLINGS CAME AS "NO SURPRISE" TO HIS ORGANIZATION.

4. ACCORDING TO THE RADIO, THE RHODESIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS ASKED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF THE PRESS REPORTS AND REQUESTED REPATRIATION OF THE BODIES FOR BURIAL. END UNCLASSIFIED

COMMENT: FROM WHAT THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN ABLE TO LEARN LOCALLY, IT APPEARS THAT THIS REPORT IS AN ELABORATION OF A BBC AFRICA REPORT BROADCAST ON FEBRUARY 24, FILED BY JOHN BORRELL IN LUSAKA, SAME DAY GEORGE SILUNDIKA OF NKOMO ANC HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN LUSAKA DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS. STORY IS POSSIBLY BEING KEPT ALIVE LOCALLY BY TIM CHIDOGA, RECENTLY DISMISSED TIMES OF ZAMBIA CHIEF CORRESPONDENT, WHO IS ARDENT PRO-MUZOREWA SUPPORTER AND PATRIOTIC FRONT FOE. FOREIGN JOURNALIST RAISED THIS REPORT WITH GRZ HOME MINISTER AARON MILNER MARCH 1 WHO SAID HE HAD ASKED THAT THE REPORT BE LOOKED INTO, BUT DID NOT SEEM UNDULY CONCERNED. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE ZANU CHARGES COME FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED ZANU EXECUTIVE SOURCE WHO IS CITED BY THE FOREIGN PRESS (PARA 1). WE HAVE NO IDEA WHO THESE SOURCES MIGHT BE OR IF THEY EXIST. IT WOULD BE IN THE INTEREST OF A NUMBER OF GROUPS TO MAKE SUCH AN ALLEGATION IN THE INTEREST OF CREATING FISSURES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00577 021551Z

WITHIN THE ZANU/ZAPU PATRIOTIC FRONT. HOWEVER, IF IN FACT A ZANU SPOKESMAN MADE THIS TYPE OF ALLEGATION, IT IS THE FIRST PUBLIC INDICATION OF DISSENSION WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE FRONT AND, THEREFORE, TAKES ON IMPORTANCE. WHATEVER LIES AT THE BASE OF THIS STORY, IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE SMITH REGIME WILL USE IT TO ITS ADVANTAGE TO DEEPEN THE ALREADY CONSIDERABLE DISTRUST AND DISLIKE WHICH MARKS THE ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALISTS FACTIONS RELATIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER.
LOW

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MURDER, REFUGEES, ALLEGATIONS, STUDENTS, NATIONALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA00577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770071-1257
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703101/aaaadlpu.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c74688ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2941471
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAMBIAN PRESS AIRS ALLEGATIONS 15 RHODESIAN
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ZA, RH, ZAPU, ZANU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c74688ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009